

SUBSTITUTE ABSTRACT

Steel strip issues continuously from a downstream end of a rolling line and can be wound up there on a coiler. An inspection table downstream of the rolling line has a surface aligned with the downstream end and the strip emerging therefrom. The coiler is below a plane of the table surface. During normal rolling the strip is deflected downward to the coiler and reeled up. For inspection of the strip, the strip is cut transversely to produce a new leading end and is fed starting at this end toward the table without substantial deflection. Then the strip is cut again upstream of the new leading end to form a strip sample separate from the strip emerging from the rolling line, which sample is fed to the table and arrested and inspected while strip emerging from the line is deflected back down to the coiler to continue coiling it up.